

Prayer for Girls and Young Women



Discrimination and violence against girls and violations of their human rights is a worldwide problem. In some societies, they are at higher risk of contracting a disease, suffering malnutrition, and have far less opportunities to gain an education than does a boy. They also are often more exposed to violence and abuse in their communities. The United Nations (U.N.) believes it is necessary to raise awareness of the challenges that millions of girls face every day. In 2011, the UN declared that it would annually observe October 11 as the International Day of the Girl Child, a day to recognize the importance of empowering and investing in young girls in every country around the globe.

We pray for your daughters around the world, Creator God,
As they wake up to days of work,
carrying water, caring for younger children, working in the fields;
As they are denied opportunities for study
as they watch boys go off to school;
As they face violence when they do have an opportunity
to attend schools and engage in learning;
As they are bartered into sexual slavery;
As they are married off too young;
As they deal with abuse in their families and communities.
You have created us all with gifts and potential, Creator God,
so we can all flourish as humans and contribute to the common good.
We pray for all girls, in all countries and regions of the world,
That they, too, may flourish and develop their gifts,
That they may grow with grace and dignity,
That they may bring their talents and skills
To create a world where everyone may thrive
And flourish as a child made in the image of God. Amen.
~ Jane Deren

